DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 198 829 IR 009 214

TITLE	Summer of Champions. The Coach's Playbook. 1980 Alabama Summer Reading Program Manual.
INSTITUTION	Alabama Public Library Service, Montgomery.
PUB DATE	Jan 80
NOTE	37p.
EDRS PRICE	MF01/PC02 Plus Postage.
DESCRIPTORS	*Children: Guidelines: Library Services: Program Administration: *Program Development: Publicity: *Public Libraries: Reading Games: *Reading Programs: *Summer Programs
IDENTIFIERS	Alabama

ABSTRACT

This handbook provides ideas and guidelines for the management and development of a children's summer reading program that uses the resources provided by the Alabama Public Library Service. Chapters offer suggestions in the areas of program planning, reading requirements and records, publicity, program activities, and program evaluation. Samples of reading games and puzzles are included. (FM)

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1980

Alabama Summer Reading Program

Manual

SUMMER OF CHAMPIONS

The Coach's Playbook

Sponsored by

The Alabama Public Library Service
6030 Monticello Drive
Montgomery, AL 36130

January, 1980

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A SPORTING PROPOSITION

Since its inception in 1971, the Alabama Summer Reading Program has been one of the most effective statewide library activities sponsored by the Alabama Public Library Service. Local programs are planned and implemented by the state's public librarians using the printed materials provided by the state library agency. The credit for success in reaching over 60,000 children, ages 7-13, goes to the local librarians for the creativity, imagination, and unlimited energy they use to reach the young people in their communities.

The philosophy of the Alabama Public Library Service in sponsoring a statewide summer reading program has not changed since Wagons went West in 1971. We feel that the summer reading program has two purposes:

1) to stimulate the interest and enrich the background of children who are using the library, and;

2) to attract to the library those children who are not currently using it.

For both groups of children, the library should encourage reading for pleasure so that they may explore many ideas that are outside their immediate experience. Children who develop the habit of reading grow to be reading adults.

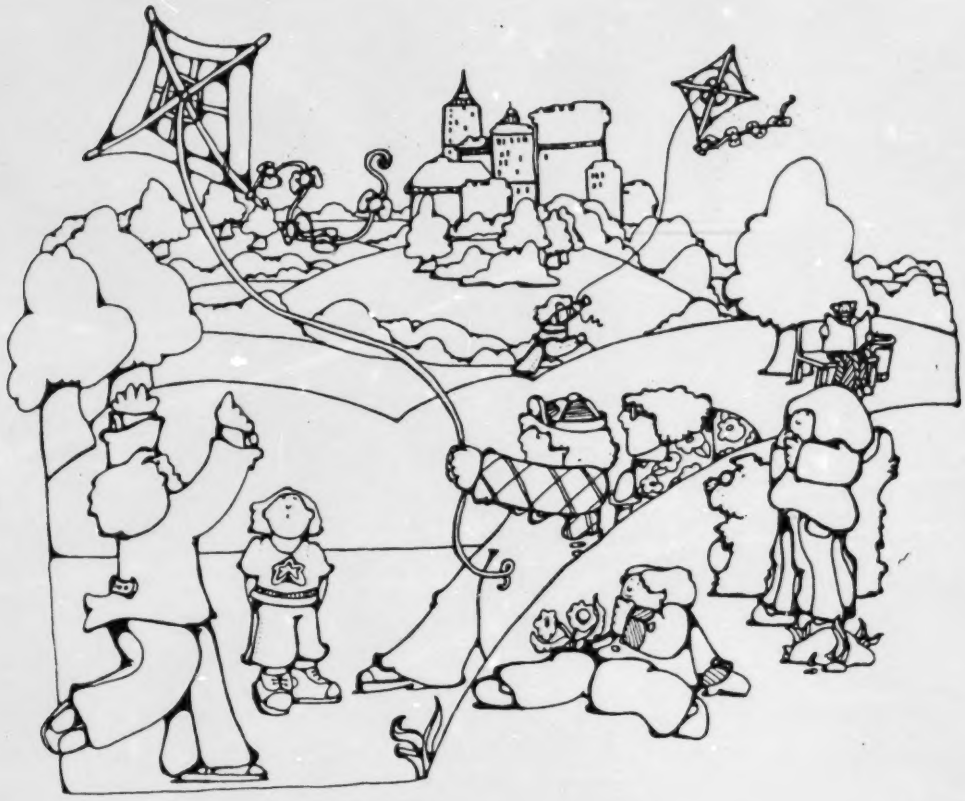
Other guidelines that we have found useful are:

3) Service to children is part of the library program throughout the year and should be included in comprehensive planning for library services. The summer reading program, a concentrated effort in a short period of time, is only one activity in the total program of services to children.

4) Program emphasis should be on reading for one's own pleasure and information. Children should be encouraged to read on their own level and at their own pace. Care should be taken to reduce competition for the "most books read" over the summer.

5) While printed materials provided by APLS are theme-related to provide coordination in planning promotions, bulletin boards, and so on, children should be encouraged to read in all areas of the collection. Children are <u>not</u> to be limited only to books from the theme.

The sporting proposition? The summer of 1980 is a sure thing! A no-lose game, a summer when every child can be a champion. So draw up your game plan, call for reinforcements, listen for the roar of the crowd.....
READY! SET! GO!



SCOUTING THE TURF

This playbook is designed for the rookies who have never planned a summer reading program and for the seasoned players who need to sharpen their game plan. It suggests ways in which the materials furnished by the Alabama Public Library Service can be used in local programs and offers ideas for program management and content.

THE GOAL POST

We have not suggested that you write out the goals and objectives for your programs in past summers. However, with increased emphasis on long-range planning for library services, we strongly urge you to consider the plans for the summer reading program as part of your total library planning and to write specific goals and objectives for the summer reading program.

The goals and objectives for specific reading programs vary in libraries across the state. No single goal or objective is suitable for every program. To help with your thinking about goals you might want to consider the following statements.

It is the goal of the summer reading program to:

1) enhance the image of the library among children, ages 7-13, by planning activities that will highlight the library as a source of materials and ideas for recreational and informational purposes.

2) explore new areas of interest with children currently using the library as well as attract children who do not habitually use the library.

Specific program objectives should be developed that will enable you to evaluate the program at the end of summer. For example:

1) Identify groups in the community who haven't participated in the past. Plan and present activities directed to these special groups or target audiences.

2) Implement program monitoring steps that will increase the number of children completing the program. (Who drops out, when, why? How can you compensate for this loss).

These are examples of some objectives that can be quantified and measured for accomplishment at the end of the program. But whatever goals and objectives you decide to use, remember that the Summer Reading Program is a means of encouraging children to read and enjoy reading so they will continue to read as adults. Summer reading should be a pleasurable experience.

THE TEAM SCHEDULE

A necessary first decision is the team schedule. Decide when you will recruit players (well before the end of school), when you will begin playing the reading game, and when the summer reading program will end (recognize the champion team). Your experience will tell you when it's best to begin your program. The sooner you can begin after school is out, the more you can capitalize on new enthusiasm for summer activities and your advance publicity in the schools.

When planning the length of your program, keep in mind that you are not the only game in town. Children come and go (summer camp, vacation, visits out of town). Your plans should include a period long enough and a program flexible enough to permit most children to participate during some part of it.

Some libraries successfully plan a program for the entire three months; others limit the program to a specified number of weeks.

THE TEAM CALENDAR

Get these schedules and events on your calendar.

1. How many weeks will your summer reading program run?
2. What day will you clear school visits with the principal (and the librarians) of each school? Do it early enough to be invited for an assembly program!
3. When does school end?
4. What are the other games in town? Pool opens, camp begins, vacation bible school dates, little league play-offs, list all the special events that are attractive to your audience. Don't compete, coordinate!
5. When will registration for the summer reading program begin? End?

May 1980

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

June 1980

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

THE TEAM CALENDAR (Continued)

6. What are the print deadlines for local school newspapers? community newspapers? Church bulletins? Community or civic club newsletters?
7. When will you put up posters in the schools? In the community?
8. What days will you have special activities? Book them early!
9. Will there be a special opening event? Closing celebration?
10. What is the staff vacation schedule? Will you have any extra summer help?

When you have developed your calendar and finalized as many of the summer reading program dates as possible, publicize them in your opening announcements. Be sure everyone knows about the events happening in the library so other activities won't be scheduled that will compete with the library. It's a good idea to include a list of activities in newspaper publicity throughout the summer to remind other program planners of your schedule.

As you identify the dates that are important to the program, you will also begin to develop a list of tasks that must be done. Elaborate on the tasks and begin to form an idea of who will complete them.

July 1980

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

August 1980

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 31	25	26	27	28	29	30

CALLING THE PLAYS

Check your collection of books and other materials. The best time to work on development of the book collection is year round! If you don't have a schedule for analyzing various areas of the collection, you may want to set one up for next year. Another good approach is to examine the books returned for discards and additions as your summer program ends. Which books were most popular? Which authors were read and requested the most often? Are some books beginning to look worn and frayed? Even the best of content isn't going to be borrowed if it looks too beat-up.

Consider which books should be replaced, new authors and titles to be purchased. Look over the fall announcement issues of reviewing journals. Keep a record of especially good reviews--compare the review with your impressions of the book when it arrives. Read books for children throughout the year. Be ready to answer: "This was a good book, do you have another like it?" Only if you read books and reviews can you have several recommended titles at your fingertips. Read the books that have good reviews and have won awards. They have special merit and you will want to introduce children to the best in children's literature. If you do this year round, you'll be ready for summer.

Are there other formats of information (multi-media) that you will be using with the program? Check your audio-visual materials and equipment. The morning of the program is not the best time to find out that projectors need adjustment and films need repair.

If you are going to borrow or rent special materials (films, displays, puppets), book them early to avoid disappointment. Make plans for an alternate program that can be implemented "in-house" to adjust for materials that fail to arrive (or aren't what they promised to be when you preview them).

Almost every game requires special equipment or supplies. What will you need for the summer reading program? Registration forms, pencils, file folders, handouts in quantity? Get everything ready for the summer before your program actually begins.

If you plan any crafts programs, get your supplies early. Teach your helpers how to do the craft. Practice makes a winning team. Focus on making creations that don't look exactly like the picture--little hands usually turn out lots of variations and you need to make sure that their unique craft is lovely, too.

RECRUITING THE PLAYERS

Your players are children. You'll need to find them on their own playing field before you can invite them to yours. Where are the children in your community during April and May? School, church, scouts, little league teams, the "Y", the recreation centers, skating in the park, loose in the neighborhood?

The most efficient way to reach large numbers of children is also the most exhausting: school visits. Consider school visits your fitness program to get ready for the summer! A school visit may be the only way to reach all the children in your area--especially those who don't know the public library from other publicity.

Don't plan to make all the visits yourself. Enlist several coaching assistants. Friends of the library, friends of the librarian, volunteers from civic groups, other staff members, college students from nearby campuses enrolled in children's literature classes--all are good assistant coaches.

Plan a simple, straight-forward presentation that includes the theme and an enthusiastic outline of the planned program. Take bookmarks (enough to go around). Leave posters for bulletin boards.

Emphasize the fun of using the public library during the summer. Score extra points by talking about favorite book characters, asking riddles, using puppets, telling tales. Be brief, informative, enthusiastic.

If possible, visit in the classrooms--it's more personal and direct. But don't pass up an opportunity to be in the school library or on an assembly program.

While you're in the school leave an announcement for the school bulletin, PTA newsletter, and brief announcements to make over the public address system.

Recruiting players doesn't stop with school visits. Ask the scouts, 4-H, the "Y", and all the other groups that attract your target audience, to publicize the summer reading program. And don't forget to offer to publicize their program in return.

RULES OF FAIR PLAY

ABOUT READING REQUIREMENTS

There is divided opinion among children's librarians in regard to requirements. Some librarians ask participants to read a certain number of books to be eligible for a certificate--in some cases even stipulating the categories of books.

Others believe that children should read for their own personal satisfaction--as many or as few books as they choose--without any requirements as to the number of categories of books.

The decision regarding requirements is yours to make. How you resolve it will reflect your philosophy and views on service to children.

SELF-DETERMINED GOALS

Many Alabama librarians have asked readers to set their own individual goals for the summer. As each reader signs up, he is asked to determine how many books he thinks he can read during the program. Once the reader sets his goals, he then begins reading to reach his self-determined goal. (Note: Your registration form or reading record should include the self-determined goal).

In this type of program, there are no restrictions on the type of literature the child may read. However, you should still practice readers' guidance to help them explore titles they may not find on their own. In addition, they should be encouraged to read on or above their current reading level.

This type of program is not a contest to see who can read the most books. It is an opportunity for each participant to evaluate his own ability and strive to attain his own potential.

By using this approach, the librarian emphasizes quality not quantity. This may reduce your circulation numbers, but it gives more encouragement to the slow or disinterested reader, the one who really needs the practice of reading.

Whatever approach you select for your library, try to downplay the competitive aspect. Whenever possible:

: Avoid mentioning numbers of books read when newspaper articles are written.

: Avoid giving prizes for the most books read--instead give recognition for other activities promoted by the reading program such as attendance at programs, craft projects, writing creative items for the bulletin board.

Some librarians have extended the summer reading program to the pre-school child. Credit is given for visits to the library, story hour, or for books read to a child. Other librarians have given participation credit for attending a film at the library.

You decide on the criteria for your library based on the philosophy, goals and objectives of your program.

REGISTRATION

You will need some basic information about each child in the reading program: name, address, school he will attend next fall, grade and parent's name. We suggest you obtain this information the first day each reader comes in to join the program. A 3 X 5 card or P-slip may be used for registering but you may wish to prepare your own. Here is a model:

_____ _____
Name Age

_____
Address

_____
Phone

_____
School (next term)

_____
Grade

_____ _____
Self-determined goal* Check here if certificate earned

* See paragraph with this heading.

The registration card is useful to:

- count enrollment
- enter names on reading records, passes, certificates
- mail out notices and announcements
- deliver certificates to school for awarding at first assembly
- group children by ages for special programs

Registration is important. Establish a special place (table, desk, or booth) labeled for easy recognition. The act of registration should be a pleasant, friendly procedure. Let each child know that you are glad he came and that you want him to enjoy the summer reading experience.

READING RECORDS

Reading records are the backbone of the summer reading program. For readers and parents of readers, it is evidence of a well-spent summer. There are several ways to handle these:

1) Keep the records in the library. Fill in the name of the player and the grade (reading level). You complete the folder as the child completes the books.

   This will involve keeping the records in a convenient location for quick and easy retrieval. One advantage of this system is the interaction between the librarian and the child. You are able to provide readers' guidance throughout the program.

2) The reader keeps the folder. In this case, the folder may be filed at the library or it may be brought back and forth each time the reader visits the library.

In your pre-planning, decide how you want to handle reading records and make sure that <u>everyone</u> understands how to handle them.

Make an effort to talk with readers about books--converse with them rather than "check-up" about the books they have read. Share the pleasure of reading with them. Recommend titles that other children have talked about over the summer.

If a child visits for an extended period or moves to another town--encourage him to take the folder with him. The Summer Reading Program is statewide, and most Alabama libraries participate. Even if the visit is out-of-state, other libraries will gladly help a young reader fill in his folder.

BOOKMARKS

These are designed for advance publicity and to give basic introductory information about the summer reading program. Use them generously <u>in advance</u> of the beginning date. Do not save them back for the children who are participating. One bookmark in the series is not dated--so you can use any surplus in the fall.

I.D. CARDS: THE PLAYER'S PASS

You decide how to use the I.D. cards in your program. Some libraries issue the card at the time of registration. Others wait until the first books read are recorded. While the I.D. is labeled "Admit One", it is not intended to serve as an admission pass to programs if other children in the community are excluded because they failed to sign up for the Summer Reading Program.

Some libraries do use I.D. as a pass to special programs because of space limitations. Care must be taken not to exclude any children from library services if this use is made of the I.D.

CERTIFICATES

Certificates are awarded to those children completing the summer reading program. You decide the criteria that define completion. Decide how you will award certificates: at a closing special program, as each child completes the reading program, at the first assembly in each school.

Among the rules of fair play for the statewide program planners is the necessity to evaluate the program. Please keep accurate records--don't inflate the number of children, the number of books circulated or any other measures you use. Take the time as soon as the program ends to evaluate your summer. Fill in the evaluation form while the statistics are fresh.

The program is made possible by a grant from the Library Services and Construction Act and we must evaluate its impact statewide as part of the funding requirements.

Smokey Bear coming Monday to open summer reading pro n

THE PRESS BOX

'Chopsticks Party' Saturday at library

Young readers invited to join program

ary Lines

Children Kick Off Summer Program

PET ROCK SHOW — Pet Rocks are one of the programs planned by the Enterprise Public Library for children between the ages of eight and 12 on Wednesdays beginning June 6 and ending June 27. The junior programs are scheduled between 1 and 2 p.m.

Puppet Show Attracts Crowd

show, held Saturday August 11, attracted approx- youngsters. The puppett show was sponsored by the Club, the Kiwanis Club, The Cullman County Public Library, and the Chil was presented admissi

Surprise! Balloons!

These youngsters had a pleasant treat following the film festival at the Andalusia Public Library Friday when balloons distributed. The theme for the Su Reading Program is "Where in the Wo the balloons were tagged "Where in re did you find this balloon? At the Andalusia Public Library's Summer Reading Program!" An estimated 110 attended the first film festival which will run through Aug. 1.

Summertime Is Reading Time

1980
ALABAMA SUMMER
READING PROGRAM

JOIN THE READING
TEAM AT YOUR
PUBLIC LIBRARY

WHO CAN PLAY?
Any boy or girl who likes to read

WHERE DO I PLAY?
At the Public Library

Get your reading folder and all the details.

HOW DO I PLAY?
Check out the books you want to read this summer.

Sponsored Cooperatively By
The Alabama Public Library
Service And Your Library.

One bookmark in the Summer of Champions material is designed to be used to describe the program during promotional visits.

Use this bookmark early in the spring and summer to help attract children to the library.

Don't waste your posters--put them where people will have time to read them: the post office, laundromats, at the ends of check-out counters--and the school bulletin board.

Many businesses have marquis-type signs available for community announcements. Ask for a summer reading program announcement.

THE PRESS BOX

Recruiting the players for your summer reading team is only half the public relations task. Making sure their parents are aware of the program will help them encourage their children to come to the library. So, your publicity will be directed specifically to children and to their parents.

You'll need to find the children on their own playing field. Schools are the ideal forum--a visit to each classroom is a personal invitation. School visits can be made by the librarian, a Library Friend, or other volunteer.

If you can't visit each classroom, think of other publicity methods. You might ask the school to:

announce the program over the public address system
post a notice in the halls, lunchroom or school library
include an article in the school newspaper
announce the program at the PTA/PTO meeting
send flyers home with the children

Whatever method you decide to use, plan on supplying all announcements and printed materials. This is your program and the school can help promote it; but don't ask them to supply materials or copy for announcements.

Don't overlook other public relations means in your community. Church bulletins, "Y" announcements, notices included in bank mailings, and other in-house notices are usually good ways to publicize the library program. Most local community service organizations (recreation departments, the "Y"), churches, and businesses will gladly help you announce your program.

Again, ask them to help when you have printed materials and copy already in hand--you'll be more successful if you supply all that is needed for them to help you.

Judging from the large number of newspaper clippings sent to APLS describing summer reading programs, Alabama's public librarians don't need suggestions for reaching their public through the local newspaper.

BASIC REMINDERS FOR YOUR PRESS RELEASES:

1. All press releases should be typed, double-spaced, and triple-spaced between paragraphs.

2. Use only one side of the page. Start page two on a clean sheet of paper.

3. Paragraphs should be short. Do not continue a paragraph onto the second page. Instead, end page one with a wide bottom margin and start a new paragraph on the second page.

4. Be sure that you have your organization name, address, and the name of the person to contact for information and their telephone number at the very beginning of the release.

5. Below the organization information, put a "release date". Don't use "For Immediate Release."

6. A short headline provides the essential information and sometimes helps the editor write his own headline.

7. The first paragraph should include all essential information: who, what, where and when.

8. Don't forget to supply a credit note for the Alabama Public Library Service and the Library Services and Construction Act grant that make the statewide summer reading program possible.

9. At the end of your release, write: END or # # #. At the very end, repeat your contact person and telephone number.

10. If you send your release to more than one newspaper, send an original press release. The copy of both can be the same--but if you send a carbon copy to one paper, it will wonder why it didn't get an original.

EXAMPLE

From: The Anytown Public Library
101 Main Street
Davis, Alabama 00000

For Further Information Call:
Jane R. Doe
342-0000

For Release: Thursday Paper, April 24, 1980

READING PROGRAM BEGINS SATURDAY!

Get into the reading game this summer by participating in the 1980 summer reading program at_____public library. Called "A Summer of Champions," based on a reading team idea, the program is open to all children in grades one through six, with special activities planned for handicapped children.

The program has been set to begin on_____(date)_____and continue through _____(date)_____. Children who want to register can come by the_____ _____Public Library at__(address)_____and sign in on the team roster.

According to_____(name of librarian)_____, lots of fun activities are planned for the team members. "We want all the kids who participate to realize how much fun they can have through reading."

Activities planned with the reading program include: (list activities and dates).

Each participant in "A Summer of Champions" will receive a Player's Pass, a Reading Folder, and lots of good books to read. At summer's end, certificates will be awarded in a special ceremony to recognize the children who participated.

An annual program in Alabama, the statewide summer reading program is sponsored by the Alabama Public Library Service and the _____Public Library, and is made possible through funding from the Library Services and Construction Act.

(end)

NEWS RELEASE

SUMMER READING PROGRAM AT LIBRARY

Exercise your mind! Jog on down to the _____ Public Library and join the reading team. Kids in grades one through six can read in "A Summer of Champions", the 1980 Summer Reading Program sponsored by the Alabama Public Library Service, the _____ Public Library, and funded through a Library Services and Construction Act Grant.

The summer reading program will begin on (date) _____ and continue through (date) _____. Children who want to register can come by the library and sign in on the team roster. Special materials are being prepared for children who are physically or visually handicapped. These may be ordered by contacting the _____ Public Library at (telephone) _____ or the Alabama Public Library Service Division for the Blind and Physically Handicapped at their toll-free number 1-800-392-5671.

"We have a wide variety of fun and fact-filled events planned for the 1980 summer reading program," said (name) _____, librarian. "The program is designed to show how much fun kids can have reading books that are both exciting and informing."

Among the activities planned for the reading program are: (list activities and dates.)

Team members reading for "A Summer of Champions" will receive a player's pass, a reading folder, and lots of good books to read. At summer's end, certificates will be awarded in a special ceremony to recognize the children who participated.

# # #

NEWS RELEASE FINAL ACCOMPANY WITH PHOTO OF AWARDS

LIBRARY AWARDS READING CERTIFICATES

The races were run, the books were read, and the summer reading team has huddled for a final ceremony as "A Summer of Champions" draws to a close. The 1980 summer reading program of the _____ Public Library provided children in grades one through six with the opportunity to experience the "thrills of victory and the agonies of defeat" through reading.

"__number__ boys and girls took part in our program this summer," reports _____, librarian. "Each received a player's pass, a reading folder to record the books read, a certificate, and an opportunity to discover the joy of reading. By taking part in "A Summer of Champions," the children learned about sports and games as well as other subjects they are interested in.

The summer reading program, an annual statewide event coordinated by the Alabama Public Library Service and funded through the Library Services and Construction Act, was held at the _____ Public Library from __(date)__ through __(date)__.

# # #

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

A public service announcement (PSA) is a short notice to inform the public about specific community activities and information. You can use PSA's to inform the public about the service, materials, and programs of the public library.

Since a PSA is not a news release, a paid ad, or an on-going broadcast, stations managers have discretion over using them. Most stations will gladly accept PSA's and air them for you. However, you cannot request specific air times or dates, PSA's are aired during various times at the discretion of the station manager.

Each station specifies the time and format for the PSA's it will use. Ask your station for its specifications.

For example:

Length: 60,30, 20 seconds are common lengths

Format: sheet of paper, card, typed, all caps, lower case, margins

Visuals: Will TV stations use slides, prints, charts, numbers

Schedule: How soon in advance should you submit a PSA

Use library letterhead for a written PSA on paper. Under the letterhead, type:

your name
Title
Telephone

Summer Reading Program

to be used on (day).

(month/day/year).

through (day).

(month/day/year).

TIME: 20 Seconds

GET INTO THE READING GAME THIS SUMMER BY
JOINING THE 1980 SUMMER READING TEAM AT
_____PUBLIC LIBRARY. OPEN TO CHILDREN
IN GRADES ONE THROUGH SIX, THE PROGRAM BEGINS
(date). FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT
THE_____PUBLIC LIBRARY.

SAMPLE RADIO SPOTS FOR SUMMER READING PROGRAM

20 Seconds

DIVE INTO A GOOD BOOK THIS SUMMER BY PARTICIPATING IN THE 1980 SUMMER READING PROGRAM AT THE PUBLIC LIBRARY. OPEN TO CHILDREN IN GRADES ONE THROUGH SIX, THE PROGRAM BEGINS (DATE). FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT THE_____ PUBLIC LIBRARY.

20 Seconds

HIT A HOME RUN! READ FOR "A SUMMER OF CHAMPIONS" AT THE_____ PUBLIC LIBRARY. KIDS IN GRADES ONE THROUGH SIX CAN JOIN THE TEAM BY PARTICIPATING IN THE SUMMER READING PROGRAM SPONSORED BY THE ALABAMA PUBLIC LIBRARY SERVICE AND YOUR PUBLIC LIBRARY. CONTACT_____ PUBLIC LIBRARY FOR MORE DETAILS.

20 Seconds

YOU CAN QUALIFY FOR THE READING TEAM IF YOU'RE IN GRADES ONE THROUGH SIX BY JOINING THE 1980 SUMMER READING TEAM AT THE_____ PUBLIC LIBRARY. BE A CHAMPION, READ A BOOK! LOTS OF SUMMER FUN, TOO! CONTACT YOUR PUBLIC LIBRARY FOR MORE DETAILS.

IMPORTANT

At the end of the Summer Reading Program, your Press Box will be filled with the people who have helped make your program a success. Take the time to thank every one of them. (Be sure to keep a record form the beginning of those people you contacted in May). Letters to editors alert the public to the service their newspaper contributes for their community. Letters to station managers help them in business (they gave you something that costs them) and becomes part of their community service file. All the businesses, churches, and service organizations who made your program part of their program, posted a notice, or included your announcements in a bulletin must be thanked. They helped you be successful.

THE WINNING PLAYS

24

THE WINNING PLAYS

The winning plays are the special events you plan to make your library an exciting, active, and very popular place for all children.

This section includes the solutions to the puzzles and activities printed in the reading folder. It also includes a special "Summer Reading Game" developed by Sally Long of the Worcester County Library and shared with us.

While sports programs come quickly to mind, think about expanding the subjects you'll want to use to enrich the backgrounds and stimulate the interest of the children in your community.

1. Invite a local athlete or coach to stress training diet, exercise, and good nutrition.

2. Bring out the mythology books. Use the interest in the Olympic games to discuss Greek gods and goddesses, explore why they were important, how they dressed.

3. Look around your community for interesting people willing to conduct programs on collecting: books, stamps, coins, arrowheads.

4. Seek the cooperation of your local recreation department, "Y", Scouts or whoever is working outdoors with the children in your community. Plan a joint program to produce the "Library (in imitation of Guiness) Book of Records" (A special way to end the program, perhaps including all the children who received certificates in the Record Book)

5. Leave jigsaw puzzles, checkers, chess, and other game boards on the library tables. Encourage the children to stay and play. They'll discover the library from a different perspective. Or try "round robin" checkers. No one can make a move until they read a book. Everyone plays on the same board.

6. Plan a film series (Remember the APLS collection and other sources of free and inexpensive films) but remember to book early and plan a substitute "in-house" program--just in case.

The "Summer of Champions" reading folder has a variety of activities included. There are several questions relating to sports heroes--the factual information can be found in standard reference tools. The answers to the questions and a bibliography of biographies about each has been sent to each library. Only one person listed did not have a biography: Alabama's Jennie Chandler. She is the subject of an APLS film: Diving High.

Also in the folder is a Kriss-Kross related to sports equipment and activities. The solution is on page 24 of this manual.

Another activity asks the children to match characters from the books. These are the very popular titles that most children will read in the second and third grades. The solution is on page 24 of this manual.

One activity that we didn't use was a sports-related word find. The activity and the solution are on pages 25 & 26. We hope you will use them in your promotion of the program. Feel free to run it in your local newspaper as part of your publicity or duplicate it to distribute to the children.

KRISS-KROSS SOLUTION

Across

3. Needed for the "Talledega 500" *car*
5. Whitewater boat *canoe*
6. The champion player *star*
7. Don't lose. *win*
8. Football, baseball players on *teams*
9. Sled for a winter race *bobsled*
13. A wet race or a *swim* meet
14. A hot air race *balloon*
16. Tennis *racket*
18. On the ice *skate*
19. Gets ready for competition *trains*
20. Run at a steady pace *jog*

Down

1. The Great River *Raft* Race
2. *Run* around the track
3. Roll out the red *carpet*
4. Leap headfirst into water *dive*
5. A skating spin or desert animal *camel*
10. A downhill racer uses *skis*
11. Slower than a run *walk*
12. Race of four-legged animals *horse*
13. Boat in the "America's Cup" Race *sail*
15. Hand off in a relay race *baton*
16. *Read* for a "Summer of Champions"
17. *Track* and field sports

CHARACTER	BOOK/AUTHOR
Ralph	Mouse on a Motorcycle/Beverly Cleary
Ramo	Island of the Blue Dolphins/Scott O'Dell
Little Georgie	Rabbit Hill/Robert Lawson
Tucker Mouse and Chester	Cricket in Times Square/George Selden
Wilbur	Charlotte's Web/E. B. White
Laura	Little House on the Prairie/Laura Ingalls Wilder
Louis	Trumpet of the Swan/E. B. White
Willie Wonka	Charlie and the Chocolate Factory/Ronald Dahl
Velvet	National Velvet/Enid Bagnold
Claudia	The Mixed Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankwiler E. L. Konigsburg

Prepared by Becky Cothran
Children's Librarian
Public Library of Selma-
Dallas County

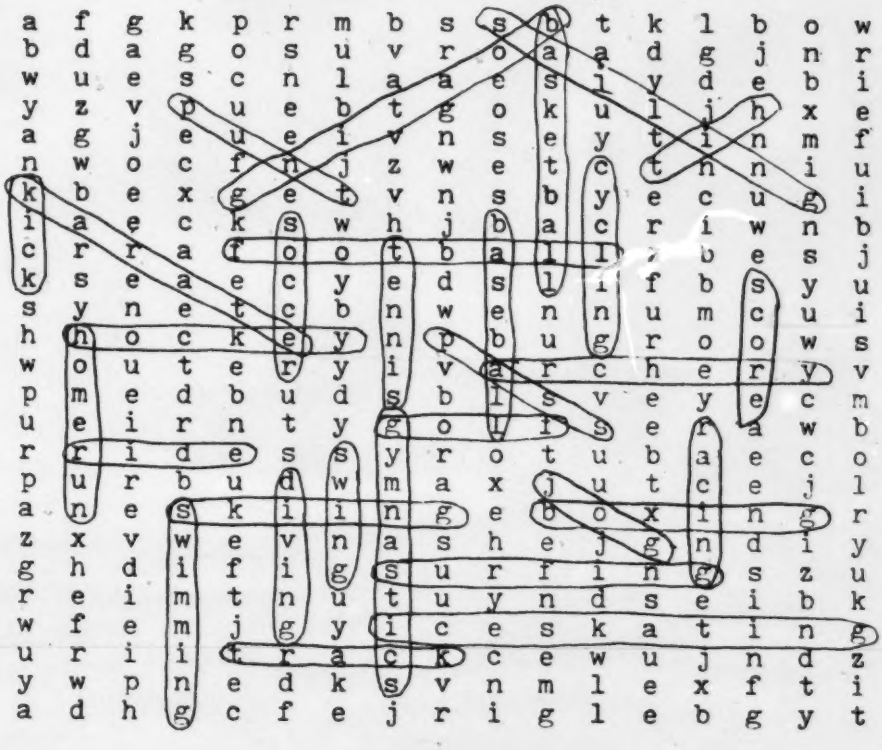
a f g k p r m b s s b t k l b o w
b d a g o s u v r o a a d g j n r
w u e s c n l a a e s i y d e b i
y z v p u e b t g o k u l j h x e
a g j e u e i v n s e y t i n m f
n w o c f n j z w e t c t n n i u
k b e x g e t v n s b y e c u g i
i a e c k s w h j b a c r i w n b
c r r a f o o t b a l z b e s j
k s e a e c y e d s l i f b s y u
s y n e t c b n w e n n u m c u i
h h o c k e y n p b u g r o o w s
w o u t e r y i v a r c h e r y v
p m e d b u d s b l s v e y e c m
u e i r n t y g o l f s e r a w b
r r i d e s s y r o t u b a e c o
p u r b u d w m a x j u t c e j l
a n e s k i i n g e b o x i n g r
z x v w e v n a s h e j g n d i y
g h d i f i g s u r f i n g s z u
r e i m t n u t u y n d s e i b k
w f e m j g y i c e s k a t i n g
u r i i t r a c k c e w u j n d z
y w p n e d k s v n m l e x f t i
a d h g c f e j r i g l e b g y t

swing
hockey
diving
surfing
gymnastics
football
boxing
sailing
punt
hit

ride
swimming
track
racing
tennis
basketball
cycling
boating
pass
jog

homerun
skiing
iceskating
golf
soccer
baseball
karate
archery
kick
score

Words can be found vertically, horizontally, and diagonally.



swing	ride	homerun
hockey	swimming	skiing
diving	track	iceskating
surfing	racing	golf
gymnastics	tennis	soccer
football	basketball	baseball
boxing	cycling	karate
sailing	boating	archery
punt	pass	kick
hit	jog	score

Words can be found vertically, horizontally, and diagonally.

The Worcester County Library in Snow Hill, Maryland, sent along a super winning play: The Summer Reading Game. The game was developed by Sally Long, Children's Program Coordinator. She used it with MUCH success in her summer program. Our thanks to Sally Long and the Director of Worchester County Library, Claudya Muller, for sharing the game with Alabama's libraries and for granting permission for APLS to reproduce it for you.

To adapt the game to the "Summer of Champions" theme, you might consider substituting sports-related slogans for "Take a Chance," "Community Chest," "Jail" or "Bookstore." Some we thought that might be fun: "Kick, Pass, or Punt," "The Playbook," "Penalty Box."

You might consider using the Dewey Number with a description of the type of book that will be found there in some of the squares. Pictures cut from bookjackets and used in the squares would add color to the squares.

Consider using the "Player's Pass" I.D. Cards for either the "Take a Chance" or Community Chest." Write the instructions on the back of the i.d. cards. Or, use the Player's Pass to substitute for Players Bucks.

If you decide to try the Reading Game, be sure you have reviewed your children's collection and selection aids so you can quickly think of titles to recommend in each category.

SUMMER READING GAME, WORCESTER COUNTY LIBRARY, SNOW HILL, MARYLAND

The Reading Game's action was similar to Monopoly$_{TM}$. Upon signing the registration sheet, each person received a player's piece with his/her name on it, and one Book Buck. The player then rolled the die, moved the correct number of squares and followed the written isntructions.

"Take a Chance" and "Community Chest" cards made the playing more interesting. The twenty "Take a Chance" cards directed the player to read one of a variety of books, or to perform an activity before rolling again. See enclosed examples of "Take a Chance" cards. The ten "Community Chest" cards gave directional instructions. See enclosed examples of "Community Chest" cards.

The object of this game was not to force children to read books in which they were not interested. In each case, every effort was made to help find a book that the child would enjoy. This occasionally meant stretching the categories a little bit.

In place of "Jail" and "Free Parking", the Reading Game had the "Bookstore" and the "Library". When a player was sent to the Bookstore, he/she had to do a "library chore" in order to return to the game. The chores were determined by the branch librarian. Some chores used were, stamping date due cards, shelving ten easy books... When the chore was finished, the player rolled the die again.

The parallel to "Free Parking" was the Library square. Any player that landed on this square won the contents of the "kitty" or "bank" (two book bucks). The player then rolled again and the "kitty" was replenished. Two book bucks were kept in the "kitty" at all times. Another way of earning more book bucks was by passing GO. Each time a player passed or landed on GO, he/she received

one book buck.

At the end of the program the library provided a variety of things that the children could buy with their Bucks (funny buttons, old juvenile paperbacks, and magazines, and in one branch an interested patron crocheted 150 bookworm bookmarks). Everything costs one buck.

MATERIALS LIST FOR LIBRARY GAME

Book Bucks.....purchased from UPSTART, Library Promotionals, Box 889, Hagerstown, Md. 21740

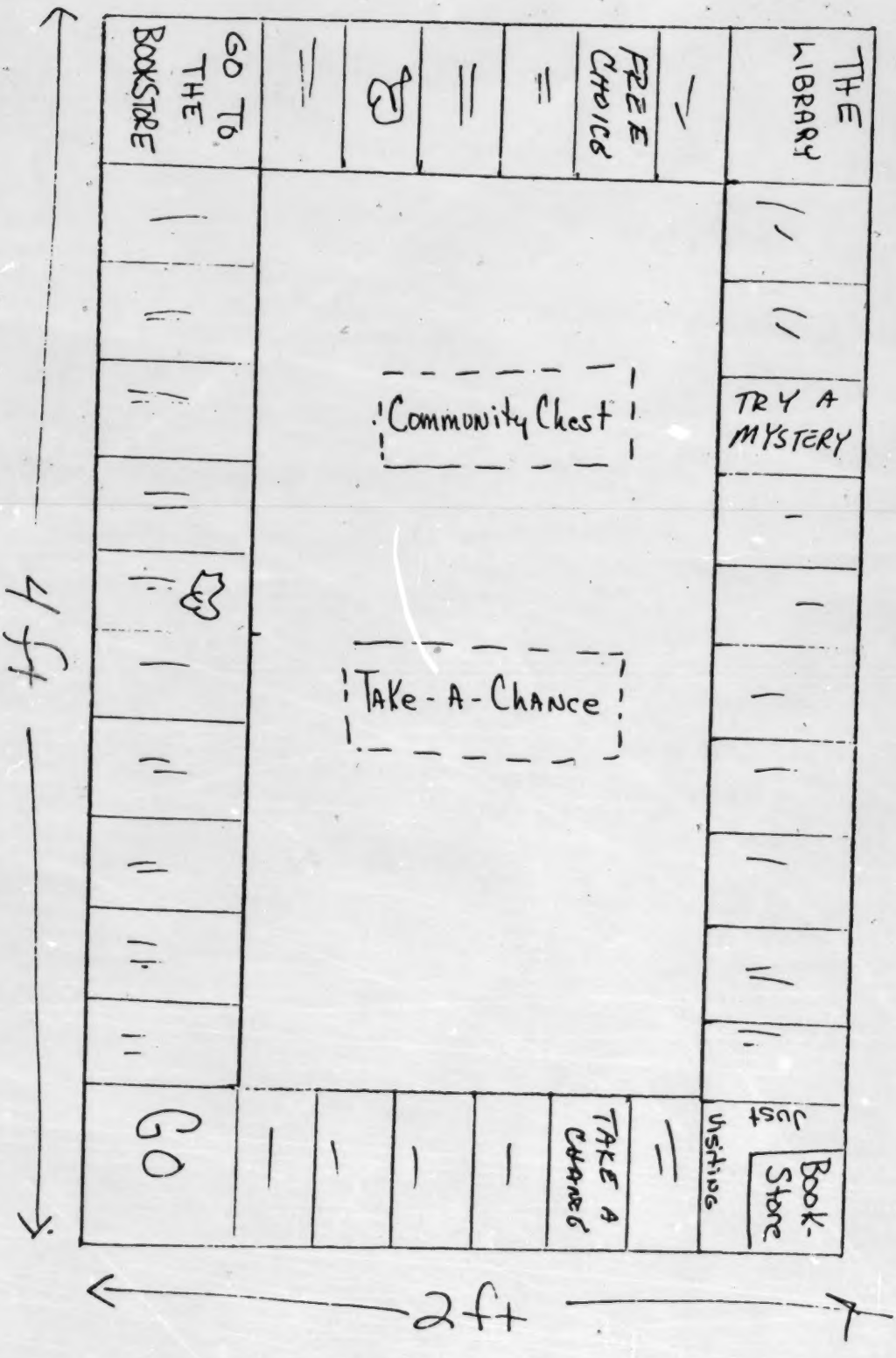
1 die

Game Board:

rubber cement
2 - 2'x4' sheets of styrofoam insulation panels (glued together)
32 - 3"x6" printed cards (different colors) for game board
- 8 - Free Choice cards
- 2 - Read a Mystery cards
- 6 - Take a Chance cards
- 4 - Community Chest cards
- 1 - Space Out with Science Fiction
- 1 - Read a good book about friends
- 1 - Pick out a book of nonfiction and read it
- 1 - Read about a family
- 1 - Tickle your funny bone with a funny book
- 1 - Try reading a biography or autobiography
- 1 - Take a break, read a short story
- 1 - Try a historical novel
- 1 - Conjure up a ghost story or any other scary story
- 1 - Read a modern novel - takes place today
- 1 - Animals or Pets
- 1 - Try a fairy tale or other fantasy

4 - 6"x6" printed cards for corners of board (same color)
- GO
- GO TO THE BOOKSTORE
- THE LIBRARY
- THE BOOKSTORE,.....just visiting

10 - printed Community Chest cards (see Xerox samples)
20 - printed Take a Chance cards (see Xerox samples)
maptacks and ½"x1" paper flags for player's pieces


THE LIBRARY
FREE CHOICE
GO TO THE BOOKSTORE
TRY A MYSTERY
Community Chest
TAKE-A-CHANCE
TAKE A CHANCE
Just Visiting
Book-Store
GO
4 ft
2 ft

TAKE A CHANCE CARDS

You are very interested in other countries. Find a book that takes place in a foreign country and read it. Ask the librarians for help in finding one.

Find three picture books that you loved when you were little. Read them again. Okay - now find a book for yourself today and read it.

If you are a boy, read a book with a girl main character. If you are a girl, read a book with a boy main character.

Find a good book written by som one with the same last name as yours. If you can't find one, find a book written by someone whose name starts with the same letter as yours.

Who is an author you have read before? Read another book written by that person.

Read a book that has won an award or was an honor book.

Find a book of poetry and read at least five poems, read more if you like them.

You like TV but your Mom won't let you watch it anymore. Read a book that was a TV show or a movie.

This is your lucky day! Read a cartoon book and take another turn.

Read a book that has magic in it!

Read a book that is part of a series, but is NOT Nancy Drew, Hardy Boys, or Alfred Hitchcock!

So you're smart! Get another turn.

Who wrote the Cat in the Hat? If you missed this question, go to the bookstore. If you got it right - choose your own book to read this time.

Do you have your own library card? If not get one and start using it! Roll again.

You're a real joker - find a joke and riddle book and pick out some riddles for the people in the library. Print them on a piece of paper and post them in the library. Write the answers on the back. Take another turn.

How many people live in your town? (ask for help to find this) Take another turn.

Go to the "library" and get your prize. Take another turn.

COMMUNITY CHEST

Move back one space
Go to the Bookstore (penalty box)
Go to the library
Take another roll
Move to GO.

THE FINAL SCORE

Your program isn't complete until you find your final score: did your program achieve your objectives?

Ask yourself the following kinds of questions.

1. What is the total number of children in the eligible age group who reside in the library's service area? _____

2. What is the total number of children in the eligible age group who registered for the summer reading program? _____

3. Of the children who registered, how many completed the program and received a certificate? _____

4. What is the percentage of children completing the program (number completed divided by total number registered.) Was this satisfactory for your program? YES_____ NO_____

5. If no, what steps could you take to insure that children remain interested in the program through its completion?

6. Did your program target any special clientele group, such as:

_____disadvantaged

_____visually or physically handicapped

_____limited-English speaking

_____Indo-Chinese

_____Other

If yes, please enter the number of children by each group

7. What efforts did you make to reach the target audience identified above or what efforts did you make to adapt your program to better meet their special needs?

8. Please rate the APLS materials for their contribution to your program.

(Circle one)

very successful moderately successful not successful

9. What suggestions do you have for improving the APLS materials and the statewide summer reading program?

10. Please rate your overall assessment of your library's summer reading program.

(Circle one)

ineffective moderately successful very successful

Now that you know your final score for your program, take time to review the summer just past and make plans for next summer. Look over the planning steps outlined in earlier chapters of this manual. The summer reading program is an intensive activity to attract children to the library and to enrich their backgrounds while they are there. What will you do all year to insure that you don't lose them?

SOM:hws